

Election/Restriction

Applicants confirm the provisional election, made by Jerrie Chiu on 2/11/2003, of Group I, claims 1-17 and claim 20, drawn to a conjugate, without traverse. Applicants also confirm election of the species of compound Example 2 on page 150 of the specification.

Applicants confirm that claims 18, 19 and 22 are withdrawn from consideration at this time as not falling within the scope of the elected subject matter.

Claim Rejection Under 35 USC §102(b)

Claims 1 – 17 and 20 stand "rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by WO 98/27061, Truner *et al.*, Schoop *et al.* [because] [t]he references each teach the elected compound."

Applicants have reviewed the three references identified in the Office Action and are unable to find the elected species (compound example 2 of page 150 of the specification) in any of the references. If the examiner would give some guidance as to where in each of those references the disclosure is made that anticipates the elected species of the present invention, Applicants will look at the references again.

Information Disclosure Statements

Receipt of PTO-892 Form (Notice of References Cited) from the Examiner is acknowledged. Please note that copies of the two Form PTO-1449s submitted previously with their corresponding Information Disclosure Statements on 12/21/2001 and on 7/1/2002, have not yet been returned. I look forward to receipt of the initialed PTO-1449 Forms in due course.

Respectfully submitted,



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